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AFGHANISTAN. 5 May—Kabul Radio announced that the Government had ordered general mobilization as a precaution against possible attack, and that the Afghan Minister was being recalled from Pakistan.

10 May—Afghan statement on Pakhtunistan dispute with Pakistan (*see Great Britain*).

11 May—Pakistan warning to Afghanistan (*see Pakistan*).

15 May—Pakistan acceptance of mediation offers (*see Pakistan*).

16 May—Sardar Naim Khan, Foreign Minister, reiterated in a broadcast his country's demand for Pakhtunistan.

Mediation by Saudi Arabia in dispute with Pakistan (*see Pakistan*).

ALBANIA. 11 May *et seq.*—Warsaw Conference and signing of eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

ALGERIA. 8 May—In incidents in the Aurès region a Moslem official was reported murdered, a soldier seriously injured, and a terrorist killed and six others wounded. In Cadilia two French foresters had been found murdered.

9 May—At El Milia, north of Constantine, rebels cut three roads and the telephone lines, and set on fire stocks of cork.

10 May—A patrol sent into El Milia was ambushed by rebels and lost two killed and two seriously wounded. At another point in the Aurès four soldiers were captured. South of Tebessa, on the Tunisian frontier, in a four-hour battle with rebels, one soldier was killed and six rebels captured.

French announcement on rebel activity in the Constantine district (*see France*).

13 May—Despatch of reinforcements (*see France*).

14 May—Terrorist attacks were made at Ain Naga, twenty-five miles south-east of Biskra, at Guentis, seventy miles east of Ain Naga, and at Youks, near the Tunisian border. A former Algerian sergeant and two companions were kidnapped two miles from Biskra.

15 May—A farm was attacked by terrorists near Khenchela, and vines were slashed at Birmandreir, on the outskirts of Algiers.

18 May—French statement on extension of emergency regulations (*see France*).

ARGENTINA. 6 May—British statement on Antarctic dispute (*see Great Britain*).

In defiance of a recent law banning open-air demonstrations, a Roman Catholic religious procession estimated at some 20,000 people marched through the centre of Buenos Aires singing hymns and Catholic slogans. Some persons were hurt when mounted police struck several people with the flats of their sabres.

During disturbances after Mass in Cordoba several members of Catholic Action were arrested.

7 May—Nearly all the central committee of Catholic Action including the President and Secretary were arrested.

8 May—Mounted police charged several times when members of a

Catholic congregation at the Cathedral of La Plata tried to form a procession after a service. Fifteen persons were arrested.

10 May—The federal police in Rosario de Santa Fé announced the discovery of a 'clerical Radical plot'. A number of arrests had been made and material seized.

11 May—Antarctic Dispute. It was announced that Argentina had rejected the British proposal to submit the Antarctic dispute to the International Court. The Argentine reply refused to recognize the intervention of any court whose jurisdiction Argentina had not accepted.

Anti-Catholic Campaign. The Senate unanimously approved a Bill repealing the law making Roman Catholic religious teaching obligatory in State schools.

12 May—The Greek Orthodox Apostolic Catholic Church decorated General Perón with its highest honour, the grand collar of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, which was created by the Roman Emperor Constantine and had so far been conferred on only twelve persons.

Señor Carena, Peronista deputy for Cordoba, was expelled from the Chamber of Deputies. He had recently resigned his seat on religious grounds over the Government's proposal to disestablish the Church.

13 May—Antarctic. A Bill was introduced into the Senate providing that the Falkland Islands and their Antarctic dependencies should become autonomous Argentine provinces.

15 May—Police prohibited two religious services in Roman Catholic churches in Cordoba on the ground that they would lead to disturbances in the streets. The Archbishop was informed that holy hour services could not be held without police permission.

18 May—Sixteen leaders of Catholic Action who had been arrested on 7 May after religious demonstrations were released without charges being brought.

Ten Roman Catholics, four of them priests, were arrested in the province of Cordoba for taking part in a religious procession. Three of the priests were released after paying a fine.

AUSTRALIA. 5 May—Malaya. A Labour amendment to reject the Government's proposal to send Australian troops to Malaya was defeated in the House of Representatives by 55 votes to 43. Four members of the new anti-Communist Labour group supported the Government.

AUSTRIA. 12 May—Peace Treaty. The envoys of the four Occupying Powers reached full agreement on the articles of the Austrian State treaty.

15 May—Four-Power Conference. It was announced in Vienna that the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States had reached general agreement on the western invitation to Russia for a four-Power meeting of heads of Governments.

Rumania. It was announced that Austria and Rumania had signed an agreement regulating traffic along the Danube.

Austrian State Treaty. The Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, the Soviet Union, the United States, and Austria signed in Vienna the

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Austria (continued)

Austrian State treaty. It provided for (*inter alia*): (1) recognition by the allied Powers of Austria as a sovereign, independent, democratic State; (2) respect for Austria's independence and territorial integrity; (3) inclusion in the future German peace treaty of provisions for German recognition of Austrian sovereignty and independence and renunciation of all German territorial and political claims on Austria; (4) prohibition of an *Anschluss*; (5) Austrian frontiers as on 1 January 1938; (6) Austrian respect for human rights and fundamental liberties; (6) Slovene and Croat minority rights equal to those of the rest of the population, including instruction in their own languages; (7) universal free and secret suffrage; (8) completion of denazification; (9) reaffirmation of law of 3 April 1918 concerning House of Hapsburg; (10) Austrian recognition of peace treaties signed by Germany's allies; (11) prohibition of former Nazis, of non-Austrians, and of Austrians having served in the Wehrmacht with the rank of colonel or higher, from joining the Austrian armed forces; (12) prohibition of the manufacture of, or experiment with, any weapon of mass destruction and certain other weapons; (13) Austrian co-operation with the allies to prevent Germany taking rearmentament measures outside her territory; (14) repatriation of prisoners of war; (15) abolition of the control agreement and the withdrawal of allied forces within ninety days of the entry into force of the treaty; (16) no reparations payable by Austria; (17) economic arrangements with the Soviet Union in regard to former German assets as modified by the Austro-Soviet agreement of 15 April (*see also* No. 9, p. 277); (18) disposal of war material of allied or German origin and prohibition of manufacture of armaments of German design or manufacture of aircraft of German or Japanese design; (19) an undertaking not to restore to German individuals any assets exceeding value of 260,000 schillings, and to restore no assets to German juridical persons; (20) renunciation of certain Austrian claims for assets against Germany; (21) renunciation of Austrian claims against Allied Powers; (22) restitution of assets to members of United Nations and their nationals; (23) restitution of assets to minority groups and victims of racial or religious persecution; (24) restitution to Austria of Austrian assets on allied territory excepting Yugoslavia; (25) free navigation on the Danube.

Neutrality. The Foreign Ministers of the four Powers also agreed in principle to a draft declaration recognizing Austrian neutrality, to be made following promulgation of neutrality by the Austrian Parliament.

16 May—West German reaction to treaty clause concerning former German assets in Austria (*see Germany*).

German Assets. The Chancellor announced that bilateral talks would be held on the question of former German assets in Austria.

BULGARIA. **11 May et seq.**—Warsaw Conference and signing of eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

BURMA. **11 May**—The War Ministry announced that in an engagement on 8 May with Nationalist Chinese guerrillas near Tachilek near

the Siamese border forty-five Chinese Nationalists were killed while Government forces lost ten killed and had seventeen wounded.

CEYLON. 17 May—**Development Plan.** The Government approved a six-year economic development plan involving an expenditure of 2,100,000 rupees (about £161 m.).

18 May—**Tea.** Sir John Kotelawala, Prime Minister, announced an export subsidy scheme to assist the tea industry.

CHILE. 5 May—The Government rejected a British proposal to submit the question of sovereignty over the Antarctic territories to the International Court at The Hague.

6 May—British statement on Antarctic dispute (*see Great Britain*).

CHINA. 5 May—**Quemoy.** Communist Chinese guns resumed heavy shelling of Quemoy Island.

9 May—**Formosa: British Approach.** The British Chargé d'Affaires saw Mr Chou En-lai to seek clarification of his proposal at Bandung for direct talks with the United States on Formosa.

10 May—**U.S.-Chinese Air Incident.** The New China News Agency claimed that one United States jet aircraft had been shot down and two more hit by Chinese fighters when the American planes had intruded over Liaoning province in north-east China. The intrusion was described as 'a grave military provocation' (*see also United States*).

11 May—U.N. protest *re* air incident (*see United States*).

India. Mr Krishna Menon, the Indian diplomat, arrived in Peking for talks with Mr Chou En-lai on Formosa.

13 May—In a report on the Bandung conference to the standing committee of the National Congress, Mr Chou En-lai, Prime Minister, repeated his offer to negotiate with the United States to relieve tension in the Formosa area and supported the Soviet proposal for a ten-Power conference to conduct the negotiations, but he again insisted that the Chinese could not allow their sovereign right to liberate Taiwan (Formosa) to be affected, and he refused to agree to the participation of Nationalist China in the conference. Mr Chou En-lai again attacked N.A.T.O. and S.E.A.T.O., saying that they had been formed to prepare aggressive wars in the guise of collective self-defence. He said that the United States occupation of Taiwan had created tension in the area and that this constituted an international issue between China and the United States. Because many U.N. resolutions were adopted under U.S. manipulation and because the People's Republic had been deprived of their rightful place in the United Nations, the People's Republic would undertake no obligation towards U.N. resolutions. They were firmly opposed to unjust resolutions which contravened the Charter.

The standing committee approved Mr Chou En-lai's report.

18 May—Protest of Indian delegates visiting China (*see India*).

COLOMBO PLAN CONFERENCE. 9 May—A conference of Asian members of the Colombo Plan opened in Simla to discuss the best

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Colombo Plan Conference (continued)

uses of foreign aid. No representative from Ceylon attended.

13 May—A statement, issued on the conclusion of the conference, said that there were some projects which would lend themselves to regional treatment, and additional money for them would be welcome. For the time being, however, the conference did not consider it desirable to earmark special funds for such projects, as it would take more time to bring them to the stage of execution than projects concerning one nation only.

CYPRUS. 5 May—Statement by Archbishop Makarios (*see Greece*).

6 May—**Paphos Trial.** The assize court at Paphos sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to twelve years the eleven Greeks and Cypriots who had been arrested in January after attempting to smuggle dynamite into the island from a Greek motor vessel. The severest sentence of twelve years was passed on Socrates Loizides, Greek ex-secretary of the Cyprus Farmers' Union, who had been expelled from Cyprus in 1950.

12 May—The Famagusta Assize Court sentenced to seven years' imprisonment Christofis Panteli, a farmer, in whose car the police had found dynamite, bombs, and grenades similar to those used by terrorists in Nicosia.

17 May—Three novices of a monastery near Paphos were sentenced to terms of imprisonment of between six and eight weeks for participation in demonstrations during the Paphos trial. A schoolboy was also sentenced to six weeks imprisonment, and twenty-two others were fined. Students demonstrating outside the court were dispersed by the police.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 11 May et seq.—Warsaw Conference and signing of eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

DENMARK. 9 May—**Faroe Islands Dispute.** A compromise solution of the dispute concerning Dr Halvorsen (*see No. 9, p. 280*) was reached by the Danish Finance Minister, the Danish Governor of the Faroes, the Faroes Government, and representatives from Klaksvig.

EGYPT. 15 May—Pakistan acceptance of Egyptian mediation in dispute with Afghanistan (*see Pakistan*).

14 May—**Sudan.** The Minister of State for Sudan Affairs issued a statement saying that the Sudan was invited to the Bandung conference as a result of Egyptian insistence with Indian support.

Israel. Egypt lodged a complaint with the Egyptian-Israeli truce committee, alleging that an Israeli patrol had crossed the demarcation line in the Gaza strip and had then withdrawn after exchanges of fire, leaving an armoured car behind.

17 May—Border incident (*see Israel*).

18 May—Cancellation of Israeli-Egyptian meeting (*see Israel*).

19 May—Border incident (*see Israel*).

ETHIOPIA. 5 May—Somali appeal to United Nations against transfer of territory to Ethiopia (*see Great Britain*).

FORMOSA. 5 May—Communist Chinese guns resumed heavy shelling of Quemoy Island.

6 May—The Defence Minister announced that defensive mine-fields had been laid in the territorial waters of all islands controlled by the Nationalist Government. The decision had been taken in view of the Chinese Communists' declared intention of invading Formosa and their repeated attacks on the off-shore islands near the mainland.

An official made clear that the move was directed largely against British shipping.

Attack on British ship (*see Hong Kong*).

FRANCE. 5 May—**Paris Agreements.** The foreign affairs committee of the National Assembly passed by 25 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions, a resolution criticizing the Government for having decided to deposit the instruments of ratification of the Paris agreements before Parliament had approved the settlement of Franco-German differences notably with regard to the Saar.

European Arms Pool. It was announced that the European arms pool conference which had been meeting in Paris since January had agreed that the arms pool should consist of a committee (with its own small secretariat), and that it should be closely linked with, though not a part of, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It would study methods of, and make decisions about, standardizations and production of armaments within Western European Union. There would be no question of supra-national control. The representatives of the various W.E.U. countries would, in many instances, be their representatives at N.A.T.O. (The original French proposals for a far-reaching organization with a degree of supra-nationality had proved unacceptable to the other delegates.)

Inauguration of Western European Union (*see Western European Union*).

6 May—Franco-Tunisian agreement (*see Tunisia*).

Radical Party. At a meeting of Radical deputies more than thirty deputies, including M. René Mayer, supported a motion saying that the end of the congress on 4 May and the vote by which M. Mendès-France had secured his victory were irregular and therefore null and void. Another six deputies disapproved of the motion on the ground that there was no court of appeal from a congress except another congress, but they equally disapproved of the way M. Mendès-France had got his vote.

7 May—M. Herriot, president of the Radical Party, announced that he was resigning and leaving the administration of the party to the new commission inspired by M. Mendès-France. He said he considered that the congress and its outcome were perfectly regular and legal.

Indo-China. The Emperor Bao Dai informed the United States Embassy and the French authorities of a plan for solving the crisis in

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France (continued)

South Vietnam. It was understood that he proposed that he should return to Saigon and accept the reduced status of a constitutional monarch; that the Diem Government should be reorganized to include representatives of all classes and tendencies; and that a legislative body should be set up to prepare for the calling of a national assembly and an assembly of notables.

Western Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Mr Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, Mr Macmillan, British Foreign Minister, and M. Pinay, French Foreign Minister, began discussions in Paris. The first matter discussed was the situation in South Vietnam.

8 May—The three Foreign Ministers turned to a discussion of an approach to Russia in which they were joined by Dr Adenauer, German Federal Chancellor.

9 May. et seq.—North Atlantic Council meeting and admission of Germany to N.A.T.O. (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

10 May—Western Note to Soviet Union proposing four-Power conference (*see U.S.S.R.*).

11 May—Algeria. Following a ministerial meeting on the situation in Algeria, it was announced that it had been decided to apply the same measures in the northern part of the Constantine department as in the Aurès to deal with the spread of rebel activity in that region.

12 May—Indo-China: Three-Power Talks. After further talks on Indo-China with Mr Dulles and Mr Macmillan, M. Faure announced that they had reached complete agreement. (It was understood that the French and U.S. Governments had agreed to advise M. Diem to broaden his Government and to desist from his anti-French attitude and propaganda, and that the position of the Emperor Bao Dai should remain unaltered.)

13 May—M. Faure, Prime Minister, told the press that there was 'total agreement' between the western allies about the objectives in South Vietnam but there had been no written agreement as a result of the recent talks. Neither France nor the United States had any intention of interfering in affairs in South Vietnam. Both Governments wanted to see the Diem Government become representative of the largest possible cross-section of national opinion. M. Diem's Cabinet changes had not found disfavour in Paris, provided that the Government could thus be consolidated and enjoy popular support.

Algeria. The Minister of the Interior announced that reinforcements of 2,000 gendarmes were being sent to Algeria by air to the north of the Department of Constantine.

Western disarmament proposals (*see United Nations, Disarmament Commission*).

15 May—Signing of Austrian State treaty and agreement on four-Power conference (*see Austria*).

17 May—War Criminals. After a trial lasting three weeks the Paris military court sentenced to death three former S.S. guards of the wartime concentration camp at Struthof. Two others received sentences of hard labour for life and of fifteen years respectively.

18 May—Algeria. The Ministers of Defence and the Interior announced in a joint statement the decision to extend the emergency regulations in Algeria to the whole of the department of Constantine and to the regions of Biskra and El Oued, in the Southern Territories.

GERMANY. 5 May—West Germany. End of Occupation Regime. The Allied High Commission revoked the Occupation Statute, and the British and French instruments of ratification of the Paris agreements were deposited at the Palais Schaumburg. Federal Germany thus attained sovereignty and became a free and equal partner of the West.

Inauguration of Western European Union (*see Western European Union*).

6 May—East Germany. Trade Unions' Rights. The new draft statutes of the East German 'Free Trades Union' (published on 4 May) showed that the right to strike had been abolished, thus bringing the unions strictly into line with Communist rule in other countries.

West Germany. Saar Agreement. The agreement reached by Dr Adenauer and M. Pinay on the Röchling steel works in the Saar (*see No. 8, p. 285*) was strongly criticized in the Bundestag by the Social Democrats and the Free Democrats.

7 May—East Germany. Ceremonies were held to mark the tenth anniversary of the liberation from Nazism. A delegation from Peking and a Soviet delegation headed by Marshal Zhukov, Defence Minister, and Mr Pervukhin, first Deputy Premier, had arrived for the celebrations. Herr Grotewohl, Prime Minister, announced in a speech that the countries of the Soviet bloc including east Germany would conclude a mutual aid pact at the Warsaw conference due to open on 11 May. In a list of the prerequisites for the reduction of tension in Europe, he included the abolition of the Paris agreements, the immediate holding of all-German conversations in preparation for all-German elections, and the creation of an all-German council to debate all-German questions.

Mr Pervukhin said that the question of a unified command would be discussed at Warsaw, and he declared that German reunification could be achieved only on the basis of a European collective security system.

8 May—Meeting of four western Foreign Ministers (*see France*).

9 May—Admission of west Germany to N.A.T.O. (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

11 May et seq.—Warsaw Conference and signing of eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

16 May—West Germany. Rhineland Palatinate Land Elections. Final results of the elections showed that the Christian Democrats with 51 seats had just gained an overall majority. The Social Democrats obtained 36 seats, and the Free Democrats 13. No other party obtained the 5 per cent of the total votes necessary for representation. (The former Government was a coalition of Christian Democrats and Free Democrats.)

Austrian State Treaty. It was announced that the Federal Government had sent Notes to the three western Powers asking for information

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Germany (continued)

concerning the clause in the Austrian treaty (*see pp. 311-12*) binding the Austrian Government not to restore property, rights, or interests worth more than 260,000 schillings to former individual German owners and not to restore any property to former 'juridical' German owners (i.e., companies or corporations). The head of the German economic delegation in Vienna had expressed to the Austrian Foreign Minister the Government's 'astonishment' at the provision.

Arrival of German Ambassador in London (*see Great Britain*).

Spain. Federal Germany and Spain signed a new trade and payments agreement under which Germany granted Spain £7·5 m. credit over a period of several years to aid Spanish exports.

17 May—Herr Ollenhauer, leader of the Social Democratic opposition, speaking in a broadcast interview, dissociated his party from the concept of a neutral belt through Europe to include a reunified Germany.

18 May—East Germany. Refugees. Reports of fresh measures by the east German Government to prevent the flow of refugees from their zone were confirmed in Berlin. All relatives of those who had already fled had been ordered to surrender their identity cards to the People's Police in exchange for temporary cards not entitling them to visit west Berlin or west Germany and stamped 'suspected of intended flight from the Republic'.

GOLD COAST. 14 May—Disorders. One member of the Convention People's Party was killed and several were injured in a clash near Kumasi between supporters of the C.P.P. and of the National Liberation Movement.

15 May—A state of emergency and a curfew was declared in Kumasi.

GREAT BRITAIN. 5 May—Chilean rejection of British proposal to submit Antarctic dispute to International Court (*see Chile*).

Somaliland. A delegation of four from Somaliland delivered to the Colonial Secretary a copy of a petition to the United Nations praying that the British Government's action in returning, on 28 February, 25,000 square miles of territory in the British Somaliland Protectorate to Ethiopia be referred to the International Court of Justice.

Indonesia. The Indonesian Embassy issued a statement in reply to the Netherlands Embassy statement (*see No. 9, p. 288*) concerning the trial of Mr Jungschlager and others. It categorically rejected accusations that detainees of Netherlands nationality had been maltreated and forced to make confessions to the detriment of third parties, and said that the trials had so far been conducted along the lines of established law, namely former Dutch East Indies law which was still in force in Indonesia. The statement also gave details of the charges against the defendants and expressed regret at the statement by the Netherlands Embassy which, it said, could only cloud the issue and would certainly not help to improve Netherlands-Indonesian relations.

Agreement for purchase of surplus American agricultural commodities (*see United States*).

Four-Power Conference. Discussions were concluded in London between British, French, German, and United States officials on an approach to Russia for a four-Power conference.

Germany. Mr Macmillan, Foreign Secretary, after announcing the restoration of German sovereignty to the House of Commons, said that it allowed her to take her place as a full member of Western European Union and of N.A.T.O. The Government would 'now seek, together with our allies, early discussions with the Soviet Union on the many outstanding problems which confront us all'.

Inauguration of Western European Union (*see Western European Union*).

6 May—Antarctica. The Foreign Secretary stated in a written parliamentary reply that the Government had submitted the disputes with Argentina and Chile over the sovereignty of British territory in the Antarctic to the International Court at The Hague. He said that Argentina and Chile had persisted in acts of trespass in the Falkland Islands Dependencies, to which Britain's title went back for more than a century. On 21 December 1954 Britain had sent Notes to Argentina and Chile repeating her offers to submit the dispute to the International Court, and if this were still unacceptable, proposing that it should be submitted to international arbitration. No reply had been received to these Notes by the end of April. The Government therefore decided to make a direct application to the Court and documents were submitted on 4 May. Since then replies rejecting the offer of arbitration had been received from Argentina and Chile. The British Ambassadors in Buenos Aires and Santiago had been instructed to express disappointment at this and to express the hope that the two Governments might reconsider their attitude and accept the Court's jurisdiction.

It was announced that Britain had established two new bases in the Antarctic in the past year bringing her total to eight (against eight Argentine and four Chilean).

Parliament was prorogued.

7 May et seq.—Meeting of western Foreign Ministers (*see France*). Note to Russia *re* movement of Vietnam refugees (*see U.S.S.R.*).

9 May—British approach to China *re* Formosa (*see China*).

North Atlantic Council meeting and admission of Germany to N.A.T.O. (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

10 May—Afghan-Pakistan Dispute. The Afghan Ambassador issued a statement explaining his country's reasons for demanding that the north-west provinces of Pakistan should be made into an autonomous Pathan state of Pakhtunistan. It said that for the past seven years Pakistan had rejected repeated Afghan requests for negotiation and suggestions that the Pathans should be allowed to settle their own future by a plebiscite. The situation had worsened when in November 1954 plans were announced for the creation of the new administrative unit of west Pakistan. This would result, the statement claimed, in the submersion of 7 m. Pathans by 30 m. people of an alien race.

Western Note to Russia proposing four-Power conference (*see U.S.S.R.*).

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Great Britain (continued)

11 May—Soviet Disarmament Proposals. Mr Nutting, chief British delegate at the U.N. Disarmament Sub-committee's conference in London, said that the Soviet declaration (*see p. 334*) marked a significant advance on several major points which the western delegates had been advocating for several weeks. In particular it accepted the Anglo-French proposal for a reduction of U.S., Soviet, and Chinese forces to between 1 m. and 1½ m. each and the British and French to 650,000 each. The Russians had also accepted the Anglo-French proposal that the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons should be started after 75 per cent of conventional reductions had taken place. The Soviet views on international control were still obscure but the new proposals would be studied with great care. The Soviet declaration, although it was irregular and gave credit to Russia for proposals that were not hers, was at least a distinct improvement on Mr Gromyko's biased and distorted disclosures of 25 March.

Argentine rejection of British proposal to submit Antarctic dispute to the International Court (*see Argentina*).

U.S.S.R. It was announced that the British Council, at the Government's request, had appointed a committee to promote closer cultural relations and mutual understanding with Russia on a reciprocal basis.

12 May—Oversea Trade Figures. United Kingdom oversea trade returns for April showed that imports exceeded exports and re-exports by £65 m. compared with £92·4 m. in March and an average of £77 m. in the first quarter of 1955.

13 May—Joint western disarmament proposals (*see United Nations, Disarmament Commission*).

U.K.-Bunyoro draft agreement (*see Uganda*).

Argentine Bill *re* Falkland Islands (*see Argentina*).

14 May—Anglo-Yugoslav trade agreement (*see Yugoslavia*).

15 May—Signing of Austrian State treaty and agreement on four-Power conference (*see Austria*).

Icelandic Fisheries Dispute. The Foreign Office issued a memorandum tracing the history of the dispute with Iceland arising from the Icelandic Government's extension in 1952 of the areas banned for fishing. The dispute was due to come before the Council of Europe in July.

High Commissioner in India. Mr Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner-General in south-east Asia, was appointed High Commissioner in India in succession to Sir Alexander Clutterbuck.

16 May—Germany. Herr von Herwarth arrived to take up his post as the first German Ambassador in London since the war.

17 May—Colonial Secretary's reply to Lukiko of Buganda (*see Uganda*).

Diplomatic Appointments. It was announced that Mr H. Trevelyan, Chargé d'Affaires at Peking, had been appointed Ambassador in Cairo in succession to Sir Ralph Stevenson. His successor at Peking would be Mr C. D. W. O'Neill, head of the Foreign Office News Department.

GREECE. 5 May—Cyprus. Archbishop Makarios of Cyprus, at a press conference in Athens, accused the British Government of undermining and endangering the peace and security of the eastern Mediterranean 'by its international machinations' and of being 'chiefly responsible for recent events in Cyprus'. He rejected the suggestion made by British Labour Party officials, of tripartite talks between Britain, Greece, and Turkey, saying 'Turkey has no right over Cyprus except when the time comes to discuss the safeguarding of Turkish minority rights'.

Great Britain. A cheque for £10,500 raised by public subscription in Great Britain was handed by the British Ambassador to King Paul's Fund, to be used to rebuild schools in three villages in Thessaly destroyed in the 1954 earthquakes.

9 May—Greek document on events in Cyprus for circulation to U.N. members (*see United Nations*).

10 May—U.S.S.R. It was learnt that the Government had rejected the Russian suggestion for an exchange of visits between parliamentarians on the ground that it would 'serve no practical purpose'. The reply referred to the differences in constitution and parliamentary practice and said that the Greek Government was already making every possible effort to safeguard world peace.

HONG KONG. 6 May—It was announced that the British freighter *Incharan* had been fired on and boarded by two motor junks off Foochow on 4 May but had later been released.

12 May—Discussion of refugee problem in Hong Kong (see *United Nations, Refugee Fund*).

HUNGARY. 5 May—Arrest of Associated Press correspondent (see *United States*).

11 May et seq.—Warsaw Conference of east European States and signing of eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

INDIA. 5 May—Naga Tribesmen Disorders. The deputy Minister for External Affairs told the House of the People that the Government was taking 'prompt and effective action' against separatist tribesmen from the Naga area, in north-east India near the Burma border, who were reported to have burnt sixty houses and twenty-five granaries as reprisals against villagers who had co-operated with the Government.

7 May—Indo-Pakistan frontier clash at Naikowal (see *Pakistan*).

8 May—Arrests in Portuguese India (*see Portugal*).

9 May—Naikowal Incident. It was announced that a strong Note of protest had been sent to the Pakistan Government concerning the Naikowal clash. A Government spokesman said that Pakistan border police fired on an Indian tractor team from across the border and that an Indian army escort then returned the fire.

10 May—Punjab Unrest. Tara Singh and ten other members of the Akali Dal were arrested for defying a ban on agitation in favour of a Punjabi-speaking State.

11 May—Arrival of M. Menon in Peking (*see China*).

India (continued)

Further arrests in Portuguese India (*see Portugal*).

14 May—Pakistan. Mr Mohammed Ali, Pakistan Prime Minister, arrived for discussions with Mr Nehru on the Kashmir dispute.

16 May—Sikh Agitation. It was learned that nearly 200 Sikhs had been arrested since the start of their campaign in the previous week for the establishment of a Sikh State.

17 May—Indian-Pakistan Talks. A statement issued following talks between General Mirza, Pakistan Home Minister, and Mr Pant, Indian Minister of the Interior, said that agreement had been reached on the prevention of border incidents and the maintenance and preservation of shrines and holy places in both countries. It had also been agreed that free and liberal facilities should be granted to pilgrims from one country to visit shrines and holy places in the other country, either individually or in groups.

It was learned that the Ministers had agreed that measures to avoid clashes along the Jammu and Kashmir frontier should be extended to the Punjab frontier as well. It was agreed that priority would be given to demarcation of the boundary between the two Punjabs, and that arrangements must be completed within three months. Agreement was also reached on a reduction of the strength of the border forces and on the arms they should carry.

Kashmir. Mr Mohammed Ali said in Delhi that the people of Kashmir must decide their own future whether it was by means of plebiscite, referendum, or anything else.

18 May—Kashmir. Mr Mohammed Ali said before leaving for Karachi that his talks with Mr Nehru on Kashmir had progressed satisfactorily and would be continued on Mr Nehru's return from Moscow.

Immediately after the departure of Mr Mohammed Ali, Mr Nehru summoned the Kashmir Premier and the President of the Kashmir Constituent Assembly for urgent consultations.

Goa. It was stated in Bombay that Portuguese police had fired on a group of fifty-four Satyagrahis who had crossed into Goa. Four of them had been wounded.

Delegation to China. Nine of thirty-two members of an Indian workers' delegation to China returned home, cutting short their tour in protest against attempts at 'indoctrination'. Their concern had also been aroused by a map they had seen in Shanghai showing Kashmir and Nepal as part of China.

Mr Serang, joint secretary of the Indian Seafarers' Federation and a member of the working committee of the Indian National Trades Union Congress, said that the Chinese proposed to form an Asian-African trade union conference and create a united front of Asian and African workers under Communist control. He said China was 'in the grip of a police raj': the people had no civil liberties, and the condition of Chinese labour was no better than it was in India—if anything it was worse. The Chinese conducted tours were a farce. Delegates had to do what they were told and could not choose places to visit.

INDO-CHINA. **5 May**—The 'revolutionary committee' held a 'national congress' in Saigon which was attended by about 1,000 delegates from the provincial committees and representatives of various political parties. It pronounced in favour of the deposition of Emperor Bao Dai. Among the speakers was the Caodaist General Phuong, whose themes were 'Down with Communism', 'Down with Bao Dai', and 'Free northern Vietnam from the Communist yoke'. Other speakers attacked Bao Dai and condemned the Binh Xuyen rebellion as having been instigated by 'colonialist intrigues'.

Meanwhile the congress of state employees and provincial councillors continued its meeting in Saigon, but after a conflict of opinion concerning the Emperor several delegates from the south left the hall. The remaining delegates then adopted resolutions asking the Emperor Bao Dai to give full powers to M. Diem, calling for the early election of a national assembly, and condemning co-existence with the Communists.

6 May—A spokesman of the southern Vietnam delegates, M. Huynh Cong Hau, complained that they had only been awarded twenty-two seats out of fifty-two although they represented more than half the Vietnamese population, and that many of the central and northern delegates did not represent elected bodies but were officials appointed by the Government. He said that southern delegates had walked out in protest at the prejudice shown by the other two sections against Bao Dai and the colonialists, and he announced that they had sent a telegram of protest to the Emperor.

M. Diem dismissed the commander of the Imperial Guard, Colonel Nguyen Tuyen, who was reported to have despatched troops to Saigon from Dalat to support General Vy in his bid to take control of the army in the Emperor's name on 30 April.

7 May—North Vietnam. The French command ordered a curfew and alerted the troops at Haiphong because of rowdy demonstrations. The disorders were thought to have been organized in order to influence the advance guard of the Viet Minh who were arriving to take over control.

British Note to Russia *re* refugees (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Proposals of Emperor Bao Dai (*see France*).

8 May—South Vietnam. The Binh Xuyen garrison which had been occupying the headquarters of the Sûreté in Saigon surrendered to the National army.

M. Diem, Prime Minister, made a statement to the press in which he attributed the existing troubles to the arrangements in force when he assumed power, notably French control over the national army and over the arms in the hands of the sects and Binh Xuyen control over the security services. He said the Binh Xuyen 'had the monopoly of the most enormous gambling and prostitution organizations in Asia'.

M. Diem also asserted that the Government had never asked the French to use their good offices in removing the Binh Xuyen outposts in Saigon. This was denied in a counter-statement by General Ely, French Commissioner-General, who said that conversations with a member of the Government were still proceeding, following a request

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Indo-China (*continued*)

for the good offices of the French to arrange the peaceful evacuation of the Binh Xuyen posts.

9 May—Broadcasting from Saigon, M. Diem spoke of the need for nationalism to preserve Vietnamese independence and lead the country to democracy.

The Hoa Hao sect was reported to be continuing attacks on national army positions in the Mekong delta south-west of Saigon, having, during the past week, bombarded Army posts in the towns of Sadec, Long Xuyen, and O Mon, all between seventy and eighty miles south-west of Saigon.

It was announced that M. Diem had rejected the Emperor's proposals of 7 May.

10 May—New Government. M. Diem announced in a broadcast the formation of a new Government pledged to a three-point programme: (1) aid to refugees and to those who had suffered from the recent disturbances; (2) preparation of general elections; (3) final unification of the armed forces. In foreign affairs, M. Diem said, the Government would demand 'that our affairs no longer be discussed behind our backs', although they were willing to discuss common problems with friendly Powers. The new Government consisted of four members of his former Government and nine new members, eight of whom were new to political life. No representative of the sects nor of the revolutionary committee was included.

11 May—National army forces attacked Binh Xuyen rebels in an effort to clear the road between Saigon and Cap St Jacques on the coast. Both sides suffered serious casualties in heavy fighting.

12 May—Western Powers' agreement on South Vietnam (*see France*).

South Vietnam. The new Government decided to establish an inter-ministerial committee charged with the preparation of general elections.

13 May—The 'revolutionary committee' called on the population of Saigon to observe a general strike on 15 May and to organize demonstrations calling for the deposition of Emperor Bao Dai, approval of M. Diem and of the 'revolutionary committee', and denunciation of colonialists and Communists.

General Tran Van Soai, commander-in-chief of the Hoa Hao sect, told a press representative that it would be impossible to avoid the opening of civil war against M. Diem's Government, although he could not, for military reasons, give the date on which the offensive would begin. He reaffirmed his opposition to M. Diem and his loyalty to Emperor Bao Dai and the 'united front' of the sects.

French Prime Minister's statement (*see France*).

14 May—The official agency published a statement by the Caodaist pope, Pham Cong Tac, expressing 'unreserved approval' for the revolutionary committee's campaign in favour of a republic.

General Collins, President Eisenhower's personal representative, left Saigon on the conclusion of his mission.

15 May—North Vietnam. French forces completed the evacuation of Haiphong three days ahead of the time limit fixed by the Geneva agreements.

South Vietnam. The 'revolutionary committee' issued a statement reassuring French and foreign residents that they were 'anti-colonialist and anti-Communist but not xenophobic', and that foreigners' lives and property would be respected.

M. Diem was reported to have instructed authorities throughout southern Vietnam to put a stop to anti-French agitation.

18 May—M. Diem broadcast a message to the people of north Vietnam stressing his Government's determination to continue the struggle 'for the return of North Vietnam, provisionally abandoned, to the Viet Minh'.

U.S.-Cambodia military aid agreement (*see United States*).

The Prime Minister's office in Saigon stated that M. Diem had written to General Ely, the French Commissioner-General, suggesting a four-Power meeting in Saigon to discuss the situation in Vietnam. Similar letters had been sent to the British and United States Ambassadors.

Refugees. The time limit, under the Geneva agreement, for the regrouping of forces and the movement of refugees, expired at midnight.

IRAQ. 8 May—Cabinet Changes. It was announced that Burhanud Din Bashayan, acting Foreign Minister, had been appointed Foreign Minister in place of Musa Shabander who for health reasons was returning to Washington as Ambassador; that Abdul Majid Mahmud, Minister of Development, had been appointed Minister without Portfolio; and that Mohammed Ali Mahmud would succeed him as acting Minister of Development while retaining his former post of Minister of Justice.

10 May—Proposed new pipeline for Iraqi oil (*see Syria*).

ISRAEL. 7 May—Jordan border clash (*see Jordan*).

9 May—A Communist motion of no confidence was defeated in the Knesset by 57 votes to 7 with 14 abstentions. The Communists claimed that Mr Ben Gurion's speech of 27 April was anti-Soviet and anti-Asian.

10 May—Jordan. Representatives of Jordan and Israel signed an agreement to treat any captured soldiers or police as prisoners of war in accordance with Geneva Convention provisions.

14 May—Egyptian complaint re border incident (*see Egypt*).

17 May—Border Incident. One Israeli soldier was killed and three severely wounded when a patrol car travelling along the Israel-Egyptian border was blown up by a mine.

18 May—The Israeli delegation requested the cancellation of a meeting which was to have been held between Israeli and Egyptian representatives under the chairmanship of General Burns to study his proposal for relieving tension.

Israel (continued)

An announcement by the army stated that units had crossed into the Egyptian-held Gaza territory and had blown up an Egyptian military position. There had been no casualties.

ITALY. 5 May—Inauguration of Western European Union (*see Western European Union*).

9 May et seq.—Meeting of North Atlantic Council (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

11 May—The new President (Signor Gronchi) was inaugurated.

12 May—The Government resigned in accordance with precedent, but announced that they had done so merely out of dutiful regard for the new President and that President Gronchi had therefore not accepted the resignations tendered.

18 May—Genoa Port Strike. A strike of industrial workers in the port of Genoa ended after 119 days, agreement being reached on the appointment of a commission to settle differences.

JORDAN. 7 May—According to an official statement eight Israelis were killed by Jordanian Home Guards after they had penetrated Jordan territory and attacked Arab farmers in the Penin area.

10 May—Jordan-Israel agreement on prisoners (*see Israel*).

KENYA. 18 May—Mr Blundell, Minister without Portfolio, told the Legislative Council that a series of meetings had been held with terrorist leaders on the surrender offer of 18 January. He said that since that date 515 terrorists had surrendered and that it was clear that many more wished to surrender but were afraid to do so.

KOREA. 10 May—The Military Armistice Commission announced that the neutral nations supervisory commission had found unanimously that Communist charges in February that the United Nations had illegally brought war supplies into South Korea at six different places were 'not proven'.

U.S.-Chinese air incident (*see United States and China*).

11 May—U.N. protest to China *re* air incident (*see United States*).

17 May—The United Nations command protested to the Communist authorities over the shelling by North Koreans of South Korean fishing boats off the Haju peninsula on 10 May. Six fishermen were reported to have been killed, fifteen wounded, and nine missing.

LEBANON. 10 May—Proposed new pipeline for Iraqi oil (*see Syria*).

12 May—Saudi Arabia. The Government asked Abdullah Yafi, a former Prime Minister, to visit King Saud of Saudi Arabia and request him not to take political or economic measures against the Lebanon which the king, in a message to President Shamoun, had threatened 'if Lebanon continues her attempts to force Syria and Jordan to join the Turkey-Iraq pact'.

The Prime Minister, Sami Solh, addressing Parliament, said that

Lebanon desired to continue friendly relations with Saudi Arabia but intended to continue her efforts to solve the Egypt-Iraq dispute over the Turkey-Iraq pact.

MALAYA. **8 May—Resignations.** Tengku Abdul Rahman, president of the United Malays National Organization, Dr Ismail Bil Dato Abdul Rahman, member for natural resources, and Mr H. S. Lee, member for transport, resigned from the Federal Executive Council because of their objection to the attitude of Government officers to a resolution in the Council about the use of cars on election day, 27 July.

11 May—British troops were flown into the Betong border area to assist Siamese police in anti-Communist operations.

12 May—Singapore. Three people were killed and thirty-one injured in riots in Singapore arising out of strikes and unrest among transport workers.

13 May—The Government closed three Chinese schools in Singapore for a week and all British army schools until further notice. Pupils at the latter had been stoned by rioters.

14 May—Agreement was reached in the Singapore bus strike after Mr Marshall, Chief Minister, had acted as mediator in the dispute.

16 May—The Singapore Legislative Assembly approved the reimposition of the emergency regulation empowering the police to impose a curfew. The regulation had been repealed by the new Government a fortnight earlier. Both the Chief Secretary and the Chief Minister, Mr Marshall, accused the People's Action Party and their Communist supporters of inciting violence and industrial unrest, especially by the organization of students to inflame strikers.

17 May—Singapore. An official statement said that the schools would be reopened on the following day, that the Government had called for the dismissal of certain boys, and that the Minister of Education would serve notice on the committees of the Chung Cheng high school and the Chinese high school calling on them to show cause why their schools should not be declared unlawful.

Students of the Chung Cheng school began a sit-down strike.

18 May—Three thousand Chinese high school students refused to enter their class-rooms unless the Government agreed to open the schools unconditionally.

The Government announced that it proposed to set up immediately an all-party committee of the House of Assembly to investigate the situation in the Chinese schools.

MOROCCO. **8 May**—Terrorist incidents in Casablanca were reported in which a Moroccan official was killed and a café-keeper wounded.

16 May—The French authorities, in a statement about terrorist organizations in the protectorate, placed responsibility on a secret organization named 'Moundama Seria' formed by Marrakesh students in 1952. It was stated that it received its orders from the Spanish zone and co-ordinated the activities of at least five separate bands in Casablanca alone.

Morocco (continued)

Two Moroccans were shot and wounded in Casablanca.

18 May—One French policeman was killed and another seriously wounded by terrorists in Casablanca.

NEPAL. 6 May—The four main parties—the Congress party, the Praja Parishad, the National Democratic party, and the National Congress—rejected an invitation from King Mahendra to a conference to examine ways of strengthening democracy. They refused because certain non-political organizations had also been invited to send representatives.

NETHERLANDS. 17 May—Government Resignation. The Government of Dr Drees resigned following the rejection by 50 votes to 48 in the Second Chamber of a Government Bill to raise certain house rents. The Bill had been made a question of confidence.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION. 9 May—Admission of West Germany. At a meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Paris, Federal Germany, represented by the Chancellor, Dr Adenauer, was formally admitted as the fifteenth member of N.A.T.O.

10 May—Mr Dulles, United States Secretary of State, told the Council that the Chinese Communists had reinforced their positions facing Quemoy and Matsu since the Bandung conference and had air forces stationed there sufficient to give them control of the Formosa Straits. The United States had nevertheless asked General Chiang Kai-shek not to use his own air force to hinder this reinforcement of the China coast. The policy was not without risks, but the United States accepted them in the hope that a policy of wisdom would prevail.

11 May—At the end of its meeting the Council issued a communiqué which recorded the significance attached by Ministers to the accession of the German Federal Republic; reaffirmed the purely defensive character of the alliance; welcomed the establishment of Western European Union; welcomed a declaration by Ministers of States signatory to the Italian peace treaty reaffirming that 'various discriminatory aspects of that treaty were considered to be inconsistent with the position of Italy as an ally'; welcomed indications that the Soviet Union might join in concluding an Austrian treaty; resolved to continue the policy of building and maintaining western strength and unity; welcomed the three-Power approach to Russia and expressed the hope that negotiations might bring about the peaceful unification of Germany and promote disarmament under effective safeguards; welcomed measures taken to strengthen the defence of the Middle East and Far East areas; and expressed the hope for a cessation of hostilities in the Far East and for no further resort to force.

PAKISTAN. 5 May—Afghan mobilization and decision to recall Minister (*see Afghanistan*).

7 May—Indian-Pakistan Border Clash. In a five-hour clash at

Naikowal on the Jammu border, twelve Indians and three members of the Pakistan border police were killed. The village, which had been disputed for some time, had recently been awarded to Pakistan. Pakistan reports said that the clash occurred when Indians entered the village and tried to occupy it. U.N. observers later arrived to investigate the incident.

9 May—Indian protest (*see India*).

10 May—Governor-General's Authority. The Federal Court ruled that the Governor-General had legal authority to dissolve the Constituent Assembly and that he had powers of retrospectively validating Acts during the interim period. It said that the proposed Constituent Convention should be correctly named the Constituent Assembly, competent to exercise full powers. It also ruled that while the Governor-General could nominate the electorate he could not nominate members to the Constituent Assembly. Arrangements for representation of states and tribal areas could be made only by the Constituent Assembly.

Afghan statement on Pakhtunistan dispute (*see Great Britain*).

11 May—Afghanistan. Major-General Mirza, Minister of State and Frontier Regions, issued a statement saying that Pakistan regarded the Afghan claim to sponsor Pakhtunistan as interference in Pakistan's internal affairs and that she would fight to maintain the Durand Line as the national boundary with Afghanistan. The statement deplored the 'sword rattling and offensive attitude' of the Afghan Government and expressed the hope that prudence and sanity would prevail. Pakistan desired nothing but a happy, prosperous, and strong Afghanistan and had no desire to shoot at her Afghan brothers.

12 May—The Governor-General accepted an offer by the Egyptian Prime Minister, Col. Nasser, to mediate in the dispute with Afghanistan.

14 May—Afghan-Pakistan Dispute. It was announced that the Governments of Iraq and Turkey had followed the example of Egypt and Saudi Arabia in offering their good offices in resolving the dispute with Afghanistan. All four offers had been accepted by the Pakistan Government on the understanding that it would not discuss the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Pakistan.

Prime Minister's talks with Mr Nehru on Kashmir (*see India*).

16 May—Saudi Arabia. Prince Musaid bin Abdul Rehman of Saudi Arabia arrived in Karachi as a mediator in the Afghan-Pakistan dispute, having first visited Kabul where he saw the King, the Prime Minister, and other high officials.

Afghan statement on Pakhtunistan (*see Afghanistan*).

17 May et seq.—Prime Minister's statement on Kashmir (*see India*).

Indo-Pakistan agreement on frontier measures and holy places (*see India*).

PERSIA. 11 May—Road Contract. It was announced that a contract had been awarded to a London firm to carry out a £30 m. programme of road modernization for the Government.

17 May—Bahai Sect. The Minister of the Interior told the Majlis

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Persia (continued)

that all provincial governors had been instructed to prevent assemblies and other activities of the Bahai sect which was illegal.

POLAND. 11 May *et seq.*—Warsaw Conference of east European States and signing of eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

PORTUGAL. 8 May—**Portuguese India.** The Goa military court sentenced ten persons accused of bill-posting and distributing subversive propaganda in the Puequem and Samovem regions of Portuguese India to terms of imprisonment ranging from four months and loss of political rights to eight years.

11 May—Two more persons accused of crimes against the State's security were sentenced by a military court to nine and eight years' imprisonment respectively with loss of political rights for fifteen years.

18 May—Indian report of Goa incident (*see India*).

RUMANIA. 11 May *et seq.*—Warsaw Conference and eastern security treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

15 May—Austro-Rumanian treaty on Danube traffic (*see Austria*).

SAAR FREE TERRITORY. 9 May—The *Ländtag* rejected by 28 votes to 16 a Social Democratic motion to nationalize the Röchling steelworks at Völklingen, the biggest steelworks in the Saar. Two Communists voted against nationalization.

SAUDI ARABIA. 12 May—Saudi Arabian threat to Lebanon *re* Arab dispute (*see Lebanon*).

16 May—Mediation by Saudi Arabian Prince in Afghan-Pakistan dispute (*see Pakistan*).

SIAM. 15 May—Prime Minister's visit to Spain (*see Spain*).

SOUTH AFRICA. 5 May—**Fort Hare College.** The Minister of Education told Parliament that Fort Hare Native College would reopen as soon as possible after the necessary steps had been taken to restore order.

Unesco. Mr Louw, Minister for External Affairs, told Parliament that the Government had decided to withdraw from Unesco, not only because it spread propaganda hostile to the racial policies of South Africa, but also because the Government was convinced of the futility of the organization.

Appeal Court Quorum Bill. The Senate passed the third reading of the Appeal Court Quorum Bill (*see No. 9, p. 301*).

7 May—Mr Strijdom, Prime Minister, speaking at Worcester, Cape Province, said that the Union Jack was a foreign flag in South Africa. Their aim was 'the sovereign independence of a republic'. As long as Britain was a monarchy the English-speaking people of South Africa would have one foot in their homeland and one in Britain.

Apartheid. The Department of Native Affairs announced that in November 1954 the Town Clerk of Umtata (the seat of the chief magistracy of the Transkei territory) had been informed that Umtata could only be regarded as a temporary European town as the gradual elimination of 'white spots' in Transkei was a firm policy laid down in 1951 and would be carried out.

9 May—Mr Kahn. The Appeal Court allowed the appeal of Mr Sam Kahn, former member of Parliament, and set aside his conviction and sentence of three months' imprisonment for contravening the Suppression of Communism Act by attending a prohibited meeting. It found that the Crown had failed to prove that the gathering attended by Mr Kahn was anything other than a social gathering.

11 May—Senate Bill. The Minister of the Interior, Dr Dönges, moved for leave to introduce a Bill providing for the dissolution of the Senate, for amendment of the South Africa Act of 1909 and the South-West Africa Affairs (Amendment) Act of 1949, and for matters incidental thereto. (The Bill sought to increase the total of the Senate from 48 to 89. By altering the proportional system of election to a party majority vote in the electoral college in each province, its effect would be to eliminate the Opposition in all provinces but Natal and to assure the Government of five more than a two-thirds majority in a joint session of both Houses.)

Mr Strauss, leader of the Opposition, moved an amendment seeking leave to introduce a Bill 'provided it does not alter the constitution of the Senate in such a manner as to destroy the composition of Parliament entrusted with the entrenched sections of the South Africa Act'.

12 May—Mr Strauss. United Party leader, issued a statement denouncing the Senate Bill and declaring that no compromise could ever make it acceptable. He accused the Bill of destroying any vestige of equality between the provinces and lowering the prestige of the smaller provinces in Parliament, and said that its passage would mean the end of South Africa as conceived at the union. To circumvent the constitution, representatives of the people elected to the Senate under that constitution would be removed merely because the Government would not brook their opposition. By their removal minorities representing more than half a million European voters in the Cape and Transvaal alone would be deprived of representation in one of the Houses. The Bill was not a measure to make Parliament sovereign but to make Parliament subservient to the bosses of one political party regardless of the sacred rights of minorities and the solemn guarantee to those minorities under the Act of Union.

16 May—Senate Bill. The United Party started a campaign against the Senate Bill with a protest meeting in Johannesburg city halls.

Thirteen professors and senior lecturers of the Universities of Pretoria and South Africa, all of whom were either members of, or sympathizers with, the Nationalist Party, issued a statement protesting against the Senate Bill.

18 May—Witwatersrand University. Seventy-eight professors and lecturers of Witwatersrand University issued a statement associating themselves 'without reference

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South Africa (*continued*)

to party politics' with the protest against the Senate Bill by their colleagues of the Pretoria and South Africa Universities.

SPAIN. 15 May—**Siam.** Marshal Pibul Songgram, Prime Minister of Siam, arrived on a four-day official visit.

16 May—West German-Spanish trade agreement (*see Germany*).

SWEDEN. 7 May—**U.S.S.R.** The Russian Embassy informed the Foreign Ministry that four Swedish fishing vessels had been seized in the southern Baltic and that the crews would be tried on charges of illegal fishing.

13 May—**Espionage.** A Swedish army officer and his Czech-born wife received sentences of five and two years' respectively for spying for Czechoslovakia.

SUDAN. 14 May—Egyptian statement on Bandung Conference (*see Egypt*).

SYRIA. 10 May—**New Pipeline.** Officials of the Iraq Petroleum Company announced that a seventy-five-mile pipeline running from Homs in Syria to Tripoli in Lebanon would soon be put in hand. It would add 9 m. tons to the capacity of the pipelines between north Iraq and the Mediterranean.

TUNISIA. 6 May—**Franco-Tunisian Agreement.** The French Residency in Tunis published the general outlines of the Franco-Tunisian protocol signed on 22 April (*see No. 9, p. 282*).

A general political convention provided for the replacement of the French Resident-General by a high commissioner, who would act as the intermediary between the French and Tunisian Governments for all matters of common jurisdiction and would also protect the rights and interests of French settlers. He would be represented locally by delegates acting as 'counsel' for the French settlers.

The settlers would continue to have their own chambers of commerce and agriculture; they would also be represented on municipal councils wherever the French population exceeded 100, the maximum proportion being three French representatives to every four Tunisians.

A council of arbitration would be set up to settle disputes between the two Governments on the interpretation or application of the agreements. It would consist of five French and five Tunisian members, the casting vote being held by one member of any nationality agreed by both sides.

A convention on justice prescribed the stages by which judicial powers would be handed over to the Tunisians over a period of fifteen years. Similar arrangements were agreed for the progressive transfer of the police over twenty years, the *status quo* remaining unaltered during the first two.

Defence, including the control of frontiers and internal security, would remain entirely a French responsibility.

The agreements also provided that descendants of French settlers would retain an inalienable right to French nationality; French would remain a second official language and all laws and regulations be published in both languages; there would be two systems of education, one organized by the Tunisian Government, the other by the French cultural mission attached to the High Commissioner's office; French and foreign settlers would be guaranteed existing cultural, economic, professional, social, and religious rights.

7 May—French opponents of the agreements turned a ceremony commemorating the allied victory in the second world war into a demonstration against the Resident-General.

TURKEY. 8 May et seq.—Turkish-Yugoslav statement (*see Yugoslavia*).

9 May—M. Menderes on the Balkan alliance (*see Yugoslavia*).

15 May—Yugoslavia. The Anatolian Agency issued a semi-official statement by the Foreign Ministry on the projected visit of Soviet leaders to Belgrade. It said the Turkish Government had never doubted the good faith of the Yugoslav Government and consequently did not believe the talks would alter Yugoslav foreign policy. But it added that the Soviet Union, by neutralizing Austria and raising obstacles to a German contribution to the defence of Europe, had done its best to weaken the efficiency of countries pledged to peace and collective security, and it was possible the same aim would be pursued in Belgrade.

UGANDA. 9 May—Buganda. The Great Lukiko of Buganda accepted the report of its constitution sub-committee (*see No. 9, p. 302*) which had recommended acceptance of the Namirembe recommendations on constitutional reform subject to certain amendments which it outlined. It also passed resolutions condemning the Government's decision to introduce a multi-racial government on 1 July and resolving to send a delegation to London to appeal to the Colonial Secretary for the early return of the Kabaka.

13 May—Bunyoro. The draft was issued of a new agreement between the British Government and the Bunyoro to replace that of 1933. Its chief provisions were to turn the Mukama into a constitutional monarch and to make his ministers responsible to the Rukurato, which would be reformed so as to have an unofficial majority with fifty-two elected members out of seventy-four. Provision was also made for the election of the Katakiro (Chief Minister) by the Rukurato.

The draft had already been approved by the Mukama.

17 May—It was learned that in a letter to the acting Governor, Mr Lennox-Boyd, Colonial Secretary, had replied to the resolutions passed by the Great Lukiko of Buganda on 9 May. In regard to the Lukiko's opposition to a multi-racial form of Government, Mr Lennox-Boyd said that in view of the fact that the reforms involved a great advance for Africans, including the Baganda, he did not consider the Lukiko's concern justified. He suggested, however, that in the second week in June he should meet either the Lukiko's constitutional drafting com-

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Uganda (continued)

mittee, or the delegates pressing for the Kabaka's return, or a combination of both, for a full discussion, and he had asked the Governor to be present. He said that most of the modifications to the Namirembe recommendations suggested by the sub-committee of the Lukiko were acceptable, and he suggested that early discussions on outstanding questions should be held in London between representatives of H.M. Government, of the Protectorate Government, and of the Lukiko's drafting committee. He also agreed to receive in due course the delegation which had been elected to press for the immediate return of the Kabaka.

UNITED NATIONS

5 May—Somali appeal against transfer to Ethiopia (*see Britain*).

9 May—Cyprus. A document was received from the Greek Government with the request that it be circulated to member Governments. It professed to set forth 'in a strongly objective way' recent events in Cyprus, including public disorders and police and military action to suppress them, and asserted that British troops were being used as 'an instrument of colonial domination' instead of for defence against external aggression. It reserved the Greek Government's right to consider any steps which the situation might demand.

Disarmament Commission

10 May—Soviet 'Peace Plan'. The Soviet Union submitted to the U.N. Disarmament Sub-Committee meeting in London a 'peace plan' proposing: (1) prohibition of war propaganda and of violation of States' territorial integrity; (2) the recording by the U.N. Assembly of the success of the Indo-Chinese, Korean, and Austrian settlements; (3) the immediate evacuation of occupation troops from Germany leaving limited contingents and police forces; (4) liquidation of foreign military bases; (5) assistance and sharing among States of experience in atomic production; (6) settlement of Far East problems; (7) abolition of economic discrimination hindering economic co-operation; (8) a report to the U.N. Assembly a year later that the preceding seven points had been fulfilled.

Soviet Disarmament Proposals. The Soviet Union also proposed that the Disarmament Commission should draft an international convention providing for: (1) complete prohibition of the use and manufacture of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons; (2) a substantial reduction of all armed forces and all conventional armaments; and (3) the establishment of a control agency to guarantee effective observance of agreed prohibitions and reductions. The convention would include the following basic principles:

A. Measures to be carried out in 1956: (1) Signatories to undertake not to increase their armed forces and conventional armaments above the level on 31 December 1954 and not to increase defence appropriations above the level for the year ended 31 September 1954; these measures to be carried out within two months of the entry into force of

the agreement; within one month of its entry into force, the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain, and France to submit full figures regarding their armed forces, conventional armaments, and military expenditures.

(2) An agreed level to be fixed for the armed forces of all States; the agreed level for the United States, the Soviet Union, and China to be 1 m. to 1,500,000 men each, and for Britain and France 650,000 men each, with corresponding reductions in conventional armaments; the five Powers to effect 50 per cent of the reductions to these levels, and corresponding reductions in defence appropriations, within one year.

(3) A world conference of both U.N. members and non-members for the general reduction of armaments and the prohibition of atomic weapons to be convened during the first half of 1956 in order to determine the reduction of armaments and armed forces by other States and the prohibition of atomic weapons.

(4) States possessing atomic and hydrogen weapons to undertake to discontinue tests of these weapons, and an international commission to be established to supervise the fulfilment of this obligation.

(5) Simultaneously with the start of measures by the five Powers to effect the 50 per cent reduction, and prior to the entry into force of the agreement on prohibition of atomic weapons, States to assume a solemn obligation not to use nuclear weapons; exceptions might be allowed for defence against aggression 'when a respective decision is taken by the Security Council'.

(6) States possessing foreign military, naval, and air bases to undertake to dismantle these bases; agreement to be reached on bases to be dismantled during the first period.

B. Measures to be carried out in 1957: (1) The production of atomic and hydrogen weapons to be stopped immediately and military appropriations cut correspondingly.

(2) The five major Powers to effect the remaining 50 per cent of the reduction to the agreed levels during the year, and corresponding reductions in defence appropriations and conventional armaments; other States also to complete reductions to the agreed levels.

(3) Following the reduction of armed forces and conventional arms by 75 per cent of the total agreed reduction, complete prohibition of the use of atomic, hydrogen, and other mass destruction weapons to enter into force; destruction of these weapons and reduction of armed forces and conventional arms by the remaining 25 per cent to begin simultaneously and to be completed within definite time limits during 1957 after which all atomic material to be used solely for peaceful purposes; States to undertake to promote broad international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy, including free exchange of information and aid to underdeveloped countries without political or military conditions.

(4) The dismantling of foreign bases to be completed. On the completion of all the aforementioned measures a further reduction of armed forces and armaments to levels absolutely essential for internal

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United Nations (*continued*)

security and for fulfilment of U.N. obligations would be desirable.

China. The question of the obligations of China, as a permanent member of the Security Council, following from the convention, should be examined with the participation of the People's Republic of China.

International Control Agency. The General Assembly should establish an international control agency with the following rights and powers:

(1) For the first period of arms reduction and prohibition of atomic weapons: (a) control posts at major ports, railway junctions, roads, and airfields; (b) the right to demand enforcement of the disarmament measures; (c) unhindered access to materials pertaining to military budget appropriations including all relevant legislative and executive decisions; States to submit periodic reports on implementation of the measures under the convention; (2) in the second period the agency to exercise control and inspection on a permanent basis with the same rights as in the first period; (3) the agency to make recommendations to the Security Council in regard to violators of the convention.

(Both the Soviet peace plan and the disarmament proposals were released by the Soviet *Tass* agency on 11 May in violation of the committee's secrecy agreement.)

11 May—British statement on Soviet disarmament proposals (*see Great Britain*).

13 May—Western Proposals re International Control Organ. The U.S. State Department published in Washington all documents submitted to the sub-committee's conference in London between 25 February and 9 May. (The disclosure followed the Soviet Government's publication of the Soviet proposals on 11 May. The documents included a joint resolution submitted on 21 April by Britain, Canada, France, and the United States. It proposed:

(1) That officials of the international control organ should be granted the right to be stationed permanently in the countries adhering to the disarmament agreement; unrestricted access to, egress from, and travel within, the territory of participating States, and unrestricted access to all installations and facilities required by them for the effective performance of their responsibilities and functions; unrestricted use of communication facilities necessary for the discharge of their responsibility; and inviolability of person, premises, property, and archives.

(2) That 'the control organ shall remain in being to ensure that the reductions, prohibitions, and eliminations are faithfully and permanently observed'; and that it 'must be in position and able to carry out its tasks effectively before each phase of the disarmament programme begins'.

(3) That the duties of the control organ should be (a) to determine the details of the methods and processes of supervising and guaranteeing the effective observance of the various phases of disarmament; (b) to supervise and verify the disclosures of information at each stage of the disarmament programme with respect to all armaments, armed forces, and related installations, and facilities; (c) to ensure the disposition or

use of installations, facilities, equipment, and materials, including nuclear stocks, in accordance with the terms of the disarmament treaty; (d) to organize and conduct field and aerial surveys to determine whether disclosures of installations and facilities were complete; (e) to conduct research to keep itself up to date in nuclear knowledge and so 'be fully effective in eliminating the destructive uses of nuclear energy, so that such energy shall be used only for peaceful purposes'; (f) to report and provide information to the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the signatory States, and to make recommendations for appropriate action by them in the event of the disarmament treaty; (g) to take the necessary measures to deal with any violations of the disarmament treaty pending action by the Security Council, the General Assembly, or the signatory States; and to call upon the party concerned and its agents to comply with such measures, without prejudice to its rights, claim, or position.

Refugee Fund

12 May—Hong Kong Refugees. At a meeting in Geneva of the executive committee of the U.N. Refugee Fund the position of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Communist China in Hong Kong was discussed. An observer of the Chinese Nationalist Government said that since 1949 150,000 refugees had been repatriated to Formosa. A United Kingdom representative said that although people were emigrating from the colony there was a net annual increase of 60,000 in the population. The committee unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the High Commissioner to encourage Governments and organizations to aid in improving the lot of the refugees.

UNITED STATES. 5 May—Hungary. The Associated Press announced that they had received information indicating that their correspondent in Hungary, Dr Marton, a Hungarian national, had been arrested by the secret police. Communication with him had ceased in February.

Great Britain. The Foreign Operations Administration announced an agreement for the sale of \$73,900,000 (£26,392,000) worth of U.S. surplus agricultural commodities to Britain. It provided that payment would be made in sterling and most of the proceeds used by the United States in Britain.

Nuclear Test. An atomic device was exploded in the Nevada desert. It was the thirteenth explosion in the 1955 series.

Foreign Aid. Mr Dulles, Secretary of State, testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in support of the mutual security and foreign aid programmes, said that only \$21 m. of the new programme would go to Europe, chiefly to west Berlin. About two-thirds of the programme was designed for the Far East.

6 May—Aid to Asia. Mr Stassen, Director of the Foreign Operations Administration, testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the bulk of Asian funds under the programme for 1955-6 would go to Korea, Formosa, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, 'all of

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United States (continued)

which are confronted with situations of extreme crisis'. Funds would also go to Pakistan, Thailand, and the Philippines for both direct military assistance in the form of weapons and training and economic aid. Mr Stassen also asked Congress to authorize assistance to other countries in south Asia, especially India whose importance as the great antagonist of Communist China he particularly emphasized.

7 May et seq.—Meeting of western Foreign Ministers (*see France*).

9 May et seq.—North Atlantic Council meeting and admission of Germany to N.A.T.O. (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

10 May—U.S.-Chinese Air Incident. The Air Force announced in Tokio that eight American Sabre jets had shot down two Communist MIG 15s, and probably destroyed another, after being attacked by twelve to sixteen fighters over international waters off North Korea (*See also China*).

Western Note to Soviet Union proposing four-Power conference (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Mr Dulles's statement on Formosa (*see North Atlantic Treaty Organization*).

11 May—U.S.-Chinese Air Incident. The State Department announced that the U.N. commander in Korea had been instructed to protest strongly to the Military Armistice Commission in Korea about the attack by Chinese Communist aircraft on aircraft of the U.N. Command on 10 May over international waters.

12 May—Defence Budget. The House of Representatives approved by 382 votes to nil a Budget of \$31,500 m. for the Armed Forces which involved an initial reduction of more than 100,000 men in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps by July 1956, and an increase in the Air Force of 5,000 men. The money allocations showed reductions of nearly \$300 m. for the Army and \$640 m. for the Navy, and an increase of nearly \$3,500 m. for the Air Force.

Agreement on South Vietnam (*see France*).

13 May—Disclosure of joint western disarmament proposals (*see United Nations, Disarmament Commission*).

Army Appointments. General Maxwell Taylor was nominated as Army Chief of Staff in place of General Ridgway as from 30 June. General Lyman Lemnitzer was nominated to succeed General Taylor as Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. and U.N. forces in the Far East.

U.S.S.R. The Defence Department announced that Russia had in operation both a long-range heavy bomber designed to rival the United States B52 and also an all-weather jet fighter.

15 May—Signing of Austrian State treaty and agreement on four-Power conference (*see Austria*).

17 May—Offer of official visas for visit of Soviet farm specialists (*see U.S.S.R.*).

18 May—Cambodia. It was announced that the Government had signed an agreement with the Cambodian Government on direct military aid, providing for the installation in Cambodia of a United States military advisory group.

U.S.S.R. 7 May—Annulment of Anglo-British and Anglo-Soviet Treaties. The praesidium of the Supreme Soviet annulled the Anglo-Soviet treaty of 1942 and the Franco-Soviet treaty of 1944 both of which had a validity of twenty years.

Seizure of Swedish fishing vessels (*see Sweden*).

Indo-China. The British Government delivered a Note expressing grave concern at the slowness with which the movement of refugees between the two zones of Vietnam was being completed, and inviting Russia, who had acted as joint chairman with Britain at the Geneva conference, to join in proposing an extension of the time-limit for the movement which was due to expire on 18 May.

10 May—Western Proposal for Four-Power Meeting. The three western Powers delivered identical Notes proposing a four-Power conference for a new effort to remove sources of conflict. The three Governments said they recognized that the solution of the problems would take 'time and patience' and would not be solved 'at a single meeting nor in a hasty manner'. They therefore proposed a new procedure in two stages, beginning with a meeting of the heads of Governments, accompanied by their Foreign Ministers, at which the issues could be formulated and the methods to be used in exploring them agreed. In order to assist the heads of Government, they proposed that the Foreign Ministers should meet shortly in advance of the meeting at the same place. This first stage would lay the foundations for the second stage in which the problems would be examined in detail by such methods, organs, and participants as would appear most fruitful.

The Notes expressed the hope that the Soviet Government would agree to 'an early meeting' and suggested that the Foreign Ministers should settle upon the time and place, pointing out that their forthcoming meeting in Vienna for the signing of the Austrian State Treaty might provide an opportunity for discussion of the proposal.

Greek rejection of proposal for parliamentary exchange (*see Greece*).

Soviet 'peace plan' and disarmament proposals (*see United Nations, Disarmament Sub-Committee*).

11 May—Warsaw Conference of East European States *q.v.*

British statement on Soviet disarmament proposals (*see Great Britain*).

New Loan. The Government announced the floating of a twenty-year State loan of 32,000 m. roubles (£2,857 m. at the official rate).

British committee for closer cultural relations with Russia (*see Great Britain*).

14 May—Yugoslavia. It was announced that a delegation including Mr Khruschev, first secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Marshal Bulganin, Prime Minister, Mr Mikoyan, first deputy Premier, Mr Shepilov, chief editor of *Pravda*, and Mr Kumykin, deputy Minister of Foreign Trade would visit Belgrade at the end of the month for talks with Marshal Tito and other Yugoslav ministers with the aim of 'the further improvement of relations and strengthening peace'.

Yugoslav assurances to the west (*see Yugoslavia*).

Signing of Eastern Security Treaty (*see Warsaw Conference*).

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U.S.S.R. (continued)

15 May—Signing of Austrian State treaty and agreement on four-Power conference (*see Austria*).

16 May—Industrial Production. Addressing a conference in Moscow on industrial production, Marshal Bulganin, Prime Minister, severely criticized shortcomings in heavy industry and announced a new system of State planning for industry involving the setting up of a new State commission for future planning, an economic commission for current planning, and a third State committee concerned with the employment of new techniques. In the name of the Central Committee of the party and the Council of Ministers, he called for speedier development and application of advanced techniques and speedier improvement in technology and organization to increase productivity; better use of equipment and floor space; tightening of discipline; and reduction of costs.

17 May—United States. The United States Chargé d'Affaires told the Government that the United States was ready to grant entry visas to about ten Soviet farm specialists and to give them 'the widest possible opportunity' to study American agriculture at first hand. They would travel on official visas to overcome the American immigration requirements of fingerprints for ordinary tourists to which Russia objected.

18 May—Mr Khrushchev, first secretary of the Communist Party, speaking at the closing session of the industrial conference, said that the Soviet delegation would go to Yugoslavia 'with an open heart'. Their chief aim was 'to guarantee the full normalization of relations' on the political level between the two countries. But it would also be to their mutual advantage to develop 'trade and other economic relations'. After repeating former Soviet allegations about western aggressiveness he declared that the Soviet proposals for disarmament offered a real basis for arms reduction, and pointed to Russia's willingness to sign an Austrian treaty and to withdraw her troops from Austria as evidence of the falsity of the western allegation that the Soviet Union wanted to seize the whole of Europe.

WARSAW CONFERENCE OF EAST EUROPEAN STATES.

11 May—A Soviet-sponsored conference opened in Warsaw attended by the Prime Ministers and Foreign and Defence Ministers of the Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, east Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Rumania.

In an opening speech Marshal Bulganin, Soviet Prime Minister, reaffirmed that Soviet foreign policy was based on the principle of the co-existence of different social systems and strongly attacked western policy, alleging that western Germany was being turned into a *place d'armes* for the deployment of large aggressive forces; that pressure was being exerted on States in the Near and Middle East, including Syria, Egypt, Afghanistan, and Persia, to join aggressive blocs; that the United States was expanding its network of military bases, particularly near the frontiers of the Soviet Union and 'the countries of people's democracy'; that air attacks on peace-loving countries were

being planned from these bases; and that the remilitarization of west Germany and her incorporation into N.A.T.O. constituted the major obstacle to the reunification of Germany on peaceful democratic foundations.

He went on to say that the Soviet Government believed that a *rapprochement* between eastern and western Germany would help considerably the cause of German unification and promised Soviet readiness to contribute by all means to the re-establishment of German unity and the conclusion of a peace treaty. After pointing to the settlement of the Austrian question, he said that the Soviet Union would always support States which did not want to join aggressive military blocs.

Referring to the western Note proposing a conference of the great Powers, Marshal Bulganin said the Soviet Government had 'a positive attitude' towards the idea. He then outlined the new Soviet 'peace plan' (see p. 334).

On the question of European security Marshal Bulganin repeated that the Soviet Government favoured a system of collective security in which all European States would join, but said the ratification of the Paris agreements had made a solution of the problem more difficult. In the new situation the bilateral treaties of east European States would not be sufficient. The aggressive measures of the western Powers called for a uniting of efforts and new defensive measures. For this reason they had met to conclude a treaty of friendship, co-operation, and mutual aid. Unlike the North Atlantic Treaty, it would not be exclusive; all other States, irrespective of their regime, might join it, and it would be in complete accord with the U.N. Charter.

The Polish Prime Minister, Mr Cyrankiewicz, in an address to the conference, accused Britain of shirking obligations to Poland in 1939 by failing to send air support and of being indifferent to Poland's fate at Yalta and also in 1945.

12 May—General Peng Teh-Huai, Defence Minister of Communist China, announced that his Government would co-operate and would support the decisions accepted at the conference.

14 May—Eastern Security Treaty. Representatives of the eight States signed a twenty-year treaty of friendship and collaboration providing for: (1) Abstention from threats of or the use of violence and settlement of international disputes by peaceful means. (2) Readiness to co-operate in all international actions with the purpose of ensuring peace and security. The parties would strive to reach agreement with States desiring to co-operate in that cause and to take measures to reduce armaments and to ban atomic, hydrogen, and other weapons of mass destruction. (3) Mutual consultation on all important international problems and immediate consultation in the event of a threat of armed attack against one or several signatory States. (4) In case of armed aggression in Europe against one or several signatories, immediate assistance including the use of armed force to be afforded by each signatory State. 'These measures will cease as soon as the Security Council takes measures necessary for establishing and preserving

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Warsaw Conference of East European States (continued)

international peace and security.' (5) The setting up of a joint command of armed forces and the taking of other agreed defence measures. (6) The setting up of a political consultative committee. (7) An undertaking not to enter into any coalitions, unions, or agreements contrary to the terms of the treaty. (8) An undertaking to act in a spirit of friendship and co-operation and not to interfere in one another's internal affairs. (9) The adhesion of other States, irrespective of their social or Government regime. (10) In the event of a collective security system for Europe being set up and a pact signed to that effect, the lapsing of the treaty on the entry into force of such a collective security treaty.

A statement on the joint command said that Marshal Koniev of the Soviet Union had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the united forces, and that the headquarters of the command would be in Moscow. The question of the participation of the German Democratic Republic would be examined later.

In a speech after the signing of the treaty Marshal Bulganin emphasized that it was purely defensive and inspired by the principle of peaceful co-existence.

WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION. **5 May**—Western European Union formally came into existence after Britain, France, and the German Federal Republic had deposited their instruments of ratification with the Belgian Government. (The member countries were Britain, France, Belgium, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands.)

7 May—The inaugural meeting of Western European Union was held at the British Embassy in Paris. A communiqué stated that the council had met under the chairmanship of Mr Macmillan, had approved the international status of the new organization, and had appointed M. Louis Goffin, Belgian Ambassador in Tehran and formerly Ambassador in Moscow, as Secretary-General.

The communiqué also announced the creation within the W.E.U. of a standing committee on armaments, composed of nationals of the W.E.U. countries, with its seat in Paris, to facilitate close liaison with N.A.T.O. Its task would be 'the development of the closest possible co-operation between member countries of the W.E.U. in the field of armaments, in order to seek the most practical means of using resources available to their countries for equipping and supplying their forces and of sharing tasks in the best interests of all'.

It was arranged that the first meeting of the W.E.U. Assembly, composed of the representatives of the Brussels Treaty Powers on the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, should be held at Strasbourg at the same time as the next meeting of the Consultative Assembly.

13 May—The Saar. It was announced that the Council had reached agreement on the following points in regard to the Saar:

Rights and Duties of the Commissioner. The Commissioner would be charged with ensuring observation of the Saar statute; political liberty would be guaranteed, provided that the principles of the statute were

neither directly nor indirectly called in question. He would conclude international treaties in the name of the Saar, subject to approval by the *Landtag*. He would receive instructions from, and would be responsible to, the council of W.E.U., to whom he would refer any violation of the statute. Should the Saar authorities violate the statute, he would be empowered in urgent and serious cases to veto measures taken by them for five days, during which the Council would decide what action to take. W.E.U. would set up a court to hear appeals against decisions by the Commissioner.

The Referendum. Control of the referendum would be entrusted to a commission of five, representing Britain, Belgium, Holland, Italy, and Luxembourg, whose decisions would be by simple majority. The commission would make recommendations to the Saar, French, and German Governments, and, in case of dispute would have the right of appeal to the council of W.E.U. Saar residents of both sexes over the age of twenty would be entitled to vote in the referendum, the date of which would be announced by the Saar Government. It would be preceded by a three-months campaigning period, the opening of which would be announced by the W.E.U. Council, acting on the commission's advice. During the three months there would be complete freedom of political activity, the Saar Government ensuring the fair distribution of wireless, press, and similar activities among all parties. There would be no victimization of any one during the three months. The referendum would be conducted by a director-general appointed by the Saar Government. Complaints against the conduct of the referendum would have to be lodged with the commission within eight days.

YUGOSLAVIA. 8 May—Turkey. On the conclusion of the talks between M. Menderes, Turkish Prime Minister, and President Tito, a statement was issued which emphasized the future role of the Balkan alliance as 'an instrument of peace and security'.

9 May—On the conclusion of his official visit, M. Menderes made a statement to the press in which he reaffirmed that the basis of the Balkan alliance was 'absolutely the same as on the first day'. He said he had received a pledge to this effect from 'the most authorized statesman in Yugoslavia' and had given in return a similar assurance with moreover a Turkish pledge that there was no difference between the aims and policy of N.A.T.O. and those of the Balkan alliance.

13 May—Visit of Soviet Delegation. In advance of the official announcement, Mr Popovic, Foreign Minister, informed the Ambassadors of the western Powers and of Greece and Turkey of the forthcoming visit of Soviet leaders and gave 'extremely firm assurances' that the talks would in no way affect either Yugoslav foreign policy or in particular her attitude towards the West. Nor would it change her attitude to the Balkan pact which she wished to strengthen.

14 May—Announcement of visit of Soviet leaders to Belgrade (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Great Britain. A new one-year trade agreement with Britain was signed. It maintained the arrangements under which the bulk of

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Yugoslavia (continued)

Yugoslav exports were admitted to Britain free of restrictions, and extended arrangements for imports from Britain.

15 May—Soviet Visit. President Tito, in a speech at Pula, said that he welcomed the 'courageous decision' of the Soviet leaders to come to Yugoslavia. He had made it clear that the Yugoslavs were ready for such talks only on a basis of equality, that they would talk only as an independent country which wished to remain as completely independent in the future as it was today, which wanted to maintain good relations with all countries with whom it had established them since 1948, and that it would permit neither East nor West to meddle in its affairs. The Soviet leaders had decided to come and talk about 'all unsettled problems'. The talks would be conducted 'before the face of the whole world'. The Yugoslavs 'would do nothing behind the scenes', and the West would hear what they were talking about.

Turkish reaction to projected visit of Soviet delegation to Belgrade (*see Turkey*).

Closure of Schools. *Borba*, the Communist Party organ, reported that the Roman Catholic theological high school and the classical high school of the Rijeka (Fiume) diocese had been ordered to close down, the former for five years and the latter for three years. The action followed a trial in which the prefect of the high school and four others had been sentenced for 'hostile activities' against the State.

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT MEMORANDA

Corrigendum

The price of **THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN: A Background Note** (April 1955, revised) is 3s. 6d. In the last issue this was wrongly given as 2s. 6d.

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